

to him shortly before he retired, and by the fact that he was elected to the chairmanship of the Isle of Ely Division of the B.M.A. 40 years ago.

His life-long hobby was music, both choral and orchestral, especially in connexion with his church, to which he was devoted. He was a churchwarden for 20 years, a member of the choir for 55 years, and he read the lessons regularly for 42 years. In short, Dr. Lucas led a long life of devoted service to his fellow-men, both professional and lay, and it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to fill the gap created by his passing. He leaves a widow, two sons, and a daughter, to all of whom our very sincere sympathy is extended.—C. T.

**J. L. FARMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.**

Dr. J. L. Farmer, medical officer of health of Winchester Rural District Council and senior medical officer for mental health services under the Hampshire County Council, died suddenly on February 8 at his home at Littleton, Hants, at the age of 46.

John Lumsden Farmer was born on August 7, 1913. He studied medicine at Glasgow University, graduating M.B., Ch.B. (with commendation) in 1936. After qualification he was for a time resident medical officer at Heathfield Infectious Diseases Hospital and Seafeld Maternity Hospital, Ayr. He took the D.P.H. in 1939 and the D.Obst.R.C.O.G. in 1945. Before moving to Winchester in 1948 he was an assistant medical officer of health and assistant school medical officer under the Warwickshire County Council.

R. S. B. H. writes: "Johnny" Farmer was a man one took to right away, and to know him was to respect him and what he stood for. A most generous, kindly, and, above all, genuine person, I never heard him say a cross word to or about anyone. His charming smile and manner soon put his patients at their ease. He was a good doctor, interested in his work, especially for the mentally handicapped, a delightful colleague, and a very great personal friend. He seemed to enjoy life to the full and tackled anything he did with great zest, energy, and enthusiasm. Never sparing himself where others were concerned, he never seemed to tire and nothing was too much trouble for him. His sudden death at the age of 46 is a great blow to all of us who knew him, and he will be sadly missed. He was devoted to his work, and, above all, to his family. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

**W. U. D. LONGFORD, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed.**

Dr. W. U. D. Longford, who practised at Rainham, Kent, died suddenly at his home there on February 10. He was 68 years of age.

William Ulic Desmond Longford was born in London on June 22, 1891, and was educated at St. Paul's School and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying in 1917. After holding a resident appointment at his teaching hospital, he joined the R.A.M.C., and served in the Middle East for a period during and immediately after the first world war. After leaving the Army he held resident appointments at the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea, and the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, and from 1921 to 1922 was a ship surgeon in the Blue Funnel Line, visiting Japan, China, and the Philippine Islands. He entered general practice in Holywood, Co. Down, in 1925, where he remained for seven years before coming to Rainham in 1932.

A keen sportsman, he represented St. Paul's and Bart's as a heavyweight boxer, and in 1923 reached the semi-final of the Scottish sword championship. Genealogy was his chief hobby, and he was a member of the Irish Genealogical Research Society for many years, being the author of a publication in the Society's journal in 1956 entitled "The Fitzmaurices of Duagh." As a member of the B.M.A., he regularly attended the meetings of the Rochester, Chatham, and Gillingham Division and was chairman from 1952 to 1953. He was also Admiralty surgeon and agent,

and Treasury medical officer, and for the past twelve years had been a member of the Kent and Canterbury local medical committee.

Desmond Longford will be remembered by his friends for his vitality and enthusiasm in all he did. He was, in every sense of the word, a family doctor; one in whom his patients could place their trust and confidence in the knowledge that their anxieties and fears would receive sympathetic understanding and kindly attention. Although aware of the nature of his cardiac disability, he always remained cheerful, and, in spite of the physical strain imposed upon him, was able to maintain to the end the same high standard of medical efficiency with which one always associated the conduct of his practice. He will be deeply missed by many who had great affection for him.

Dr. Longford is survived by his widow, a daughter, and three sons, two of whom have followed him into the medical profession. The sympathy of his friends is extended to them.—G. O. S. R.

**J. R. K. THOMSON, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.**

Dr. J. R. K. Thomson died on February 16 at his home in Penrith, Cumberland, where he had practised for over 30 years. He was 69 years of age.

James Robert Karran Thomson was born in Penrith on May 13, 1890, the eldest son of the late Dr. D. G. P. Thomson and elder brother of the late Dr. Douglas D. C. Thomson. He was educated at King William College, Isle of Man, and the London Hospital, qualifying in 1913. During his time at the London Hospital he won the Leatheby prize and he also played rugby football for his hospital and for the Eastern Counties. After qualification he held resident appointments at the London Hospital, and, having joined the R.A.M.C. in 1915, he saw service in a cavalry field ambulance throughout Allenby's Palestine campaign. Twice mentioned in dispatches, he was later appointed O.B.E. In 1919 he returned to Penrith and took over the practice at Bishops Yard which had formerly belonged to his father, who had died some years previously. He was chairman of the Cumberland Division of the B.M.A. from 1935 to 1936 and was a member of the old County panel committee. In 1937 he became county controller of the Cumberland and Westmorland V.A.D., and during the second world war he held the rank of major in the Home Guard.

Dr. Thomson had many interests outside medicine. A keen follower of the Ullswater Fell Fox Hounds, he was joint master from 1934 until 1940. He was chairman and later president of the Penrith Branch of the British Legion, chairman of the local branch of the Antiquarian and Archeological Society, and president of the Westmorland Conservative Association from 1957 until last year, when he resigned for reasons of ill-health. He was an acknowledged expert on the history and enunciation of the Cumbrian dialect.

"Dr. Jim," as he was locally known, was a popular and successful country practitioner, having the trust and esteem of his patients. His success was due primarily to his care, astuteness, and sound clinical judgment. After retiring he took a great interest in the activities of the district with his customary enthusiasm, charm, and humour. He lived a full life, and will be greatly missed by many friends.

He leaves a widow, a son, and a daughter, with whom the warmest sympathy will be felt.—K. T.

**R. G. ANDERSON, M.D., D.P.M.**

Dr. R. G. Anderson, a Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy and formerly a commissioner of the Board of Control, died after a short illness on February 12 at the age of 60.

Rupert George Anderson was a student at Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1924, proceeding M.D. eight years later. Early in his medical